

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-18 were pending in the application prior to this amendment.

Claims 4-6 and 13-15 have been allowed.

Claims 1-3, 7-12 and 16-18 have been rejected.

By this Amendment, previously rejected claims 1-3, 7-12 and 16-18 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

II. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-3, 7-12 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Saeki (U.S. 6,831,696, hereafter "Saeki").

Applicants have cancelled previously rejected claims 1-3, 7-12 and 16-18.

As a result, Applicants believe that the previous 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection is no longer applicable to the currently pending claims, and that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Serial No.: 10/066,063

Response to October 20, 2005, Final Office Action

Docket No. 1232-4814

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4814.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4814.

Respectfully submitted,
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